

CROYDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

NOTES OF THE MEETING 13.10.2015.

The President Paul Elliot opened the meeting at 19.45 hours and welcomed the 18 members present. The evening was divided into 2 displays relating to **Guernsey**.



Firstly, **Brian Sole** displayed a small section of his major display which he has collected since 1969. The display was an extremely attractive array, mainly of stamps, from the period when Guernsey was occupied from 1945-46. Brian expounded on conditions during wartime, explaining how letters between Guernsey and Great Britain were conveyed by Red Cross via Germany. The shortages of stamps resulted in bisects, prior to the supply of stamps overprinted with swastikas plus resulting errors and varieties. The period after the war produced a wide range of designs from printings by Courvoisier and by De la Rue. Commemorative stamps included paintings, Victor Hugo, Guernsey landscapes, horticulture, flowers. The display included postcards, booklets and air-mails, with stamp designed by Robin Ollington.



In the second section **Robin Ollington**'s contribution blended perfectly with Brian's. He spent 16 years providing designs promoting the Channel Island's tourism, agriculture and philately with each department discussing design and influencing the choices, protocol, printing and approval. When the design included royalty the approval process, from conception to printing, required the Queen's personal approval and Robin stated how impressed he was by Her Majesty's scrutiny of detail. Robin displayed examples of his work which included large-scale drawings of Sandhurst and military notables, RAF planes and airbases, cricket, history including the V&A, Christmas trees and screen detectives.

Paul Elliot gave the vote of thanks for an evening of two fascinating displays. The meeting closed at 21.45 hours.

Graham Harker
Honorary Assistant Secretary, Croydon Philatelic Society.